

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**COURT OF APPEALS**

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CARLA O'NEILL,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

v

NINETEENTH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE  
WILLIAM C. HULTGREN, CITY OF  
DEARBORN and NINETEENTH DISTRICT  
COURT JUDGE WILLIAM J. RUNCO,

Defendants-Appellees.

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UNPUBLISHED

January 25, 2002

No. 223700

Wayne Circuit Court

LC No. 99-919080-CZ

Before: Saad, P.J., and Sawyer and O'Connell, JJ.

SAAD, P.J. (concurring).

I concur in the result only because we have been asked only to address the question of the chief judge's authority to administer his budget. We have not been asked to address the propriety of spending public funds for alleged private misconduct which precedes the judge's service on the bench.

I write separately to say that regardless of the merits of the ethical misconduct charged against Judge Runco,<sup>1</sup> I do not believe it is appropriate to spend public funds to defend against charges of unethical conduct when the conduct in question occurred prior to the judge taking the bench and is unrelated to the judge's judicial duties.

/s/ Henry William Saad

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<sup>1</sup> I express no opinion on the merits of the charge of unethical conduct because that issue is not before this Court.